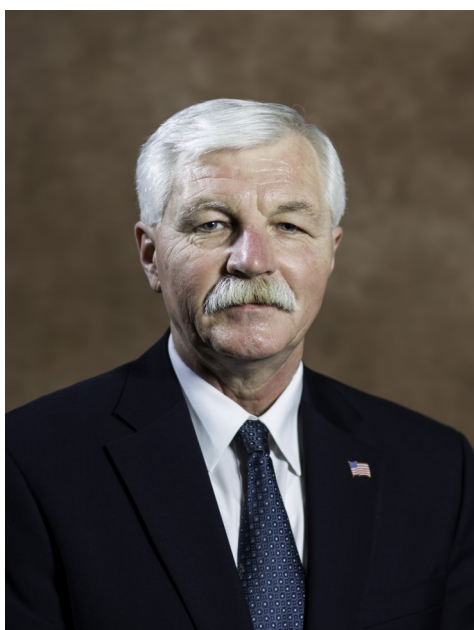




EMPIRE STATE ELK

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STATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Philip E. Conaty
2017-2018**

“Elkdom:
Fellowship Through Giving”

My Fellow Elks,

It is simply incomprehensible to me that it is now October. The Spring Convention, Grand Lodge and the Fall Convention are all behind us. I shudder at what lies ahead – in terms of the weather.

Our Grand Exalted Ruler Malcolm McPherson Jr. and his wife Pat were our Association's guests at the Fall Convention in Albany and they really enjoyed themselves. They had a great time visiting the various hospitality rooms and meeting as many members of our great Association as possible. He was also very impressed by the reports given by our State Chairman at the business session. His talk at our banquet was inspirational. As a reminder to every Lodge, please don't miss the opportunity to apply for the special anniversary grant. It is free money that you can use as an additional source of funds to continue making a difference in your communities.

Betsy and I have begun our visits to the Districts and we have been simply overwhelmed by the fellowship that we have shared at each and every Lodge that we have visited. We have also been overwhelmed by the charitable work that the Lodges are doing. Each Lodge that we have visited is unique in its own respect but what they all have had in common is dedicated members making a difference in their communities. What our visits have demonstrated thus far is something that I knew beyond a shadow of a doubt before we started. Fellowship through giving is the hallmark of our great Order and is has been for the last 150 years.

It is really exciting to be serving you as your President as we approach the 150th anniversary of our Order. The perfect was to make the celebration even more special is for all of us to devote ourselves to achieving a positive membership gain this year. Please join me in doing all that you can to bring in new members and reinstate those who have lapsed. If we work hard, we can reverse our long trend of declining membership. As you all know so well, membership is the lifeblood of our Order. Without members, there is no fellowship. Without members, there is no one to do our charitable works.

As Betsy and I continue our travels, please follow us on the Facebook page that my committee has established for us. We look forward to meeting you and visiting your Lodges and continue to share fellowship with you and learn how you are making a difference in your community.

Fraternaly,

Philip E. Conaty, President - NYSEA

NYSEA State President Philip E. Conaty Upcoming Visitation Schedule

Northeast District	October 20-22, 2017
North Hudson District	October 27-29, 2017
West District	November 3-5, 2017
Southwest District	November 10-12, 2017
North Central District	November 17-19, 2017
Southern Tier District	December 1-3, 2017
South District	December 8-10, 2017
Central District	December 15-17, 2017
West Central District	February 1-4, 2018
Ontario District	February 16-18, 2018
East District	February 23-25, 2018
Southeast District	March 2-4, 2018, 2018
NYS Bowling Tournament	March 30-31, 2018
East District	May 5-7, 2018
Spring Convention	May 31—June 3, 2018



While visiting **Homer Lodge #2506** during his tour of the South Central District, State President Phil Conaty had the opportunity to meet future Elks Mackenzie and Tommy Barnes. They are pictured with State President Conaty proudly displaying their future Elks t-shirts.



During a recent visit to **Vestal Lodge #2508**, State Present Phil Conaty and his wife Betsy were gifted with a hand painted picture of his State President Pin. They are pictured receiving the picture from Past State President Phil Holowacz and Past State President Ernie Southworth. State President Conaty's pin reads "Frienship, Love, Loyalty" on the outside circle and "NY State President Philip E. Conaty - Elkdom :Fellowship Through Giving" 2017-2018 in the center of the pin.

“Elkdom: Fellowship Through Giving”